

Brethren Evangelist

"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life."—Jesus

VOLUME XXI

ASHLAND, O., WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 1899

No. 26

Important Notice

Those whom this concerns will please note (1) The business year of the Brethren Publication Board closes July 31, 1899, and the new year begins August 1, 1899. It is very desirable that all old accounts, whether ledger accounts or arrearages on subscriptions not yet placed on the ledger, should be settled during the month of July. (2) A new ledger will be opened on August 1, 1899, and all old accounts not settled for will be transferred from the old to the new. This will mean a vast amount of work unless many of these accounts are settled. Therefore, in view of these facts, the reader will please observe,

1. All arrearages should be promptly paid. This is very important, for in making up the year's business the Board has no way of knowing whether your subscription is to be counted for the year or only to date. If your label reads 50-98 it means that you owe for the paper from the beginning of the year to date or 75 cents, but if you mean to renew for the year (which we hope you do) then you are indebted to the office for a year's subscription, \$1.50. Now please examine your label and kindly inform us at once what your desires are. If your subscription expired some time during the year 1899, it is equally important that you should inform us whether the paper is to be continued, and if possible make us a remittance. We cannot render an intelligent account for the coming Conference unless we get something definite from all who are in arrears.

2. Those whose names appear on our ledger will please make us a remittance as early as possible, so as to save the labor and annoyance of making the transfer to the new ledger. What a pleasant work it would be to open the new ledger and not have a single old account to transfer. Besides it will avoid going to the Conference with a ledger account so large that it almost reflects on the credit of the church considering the amount of business done. Let this matter have your attention.

3. This applies to all Sunday schools indebted to us, whether for last or this quarter. Before passing into the new business year we would like to have all these accounts settled.

We trust our readers will give immediate attention to the matter herein referred to, and if concerned, make settlement as early as possible.

The Impossible Alliance

We live in an age when it is no longer discreet to say that anything is impossible. Men have "sought out many inventions," and what was formerly considered as quite beyond the exploits of human ingenuity becomes commonplace under our very eyes, while art and science go on ahead seeking new impossibilities to conquer.

The same phenomenon appears to be prancing gaily into the spiritual domain. Our old fashioned ideas held to a certain incompatibility between light and darkness, Christ and Belial, but it seems that the distinguished Bishop Potter has succeeded in constructing a fraternal alliance between these contradictory elements, these irreconcilable principles and personages, so that instead of the old time antipathy we now have sweet concord and loving fellowship. Under the able and skillful coaching of this metropolitan prelate, the representatives of the church and the representatives of the theater have been consolidated into the Actors' Church Alliance. A large crowd attended the initial meeting, composed of numerous actors and numerous divines; and the Bishop delivered an address in which he said that he would be glad to see the stage and the church brought closer together. No doubt the actors would be glad also, for the only effect of the said alliance would be to increase theater attendance, and thereby swell the box receipts. As a single concession to the church, Sunday performances were to be discouraged.

It is difficult for us provincials to understand the antics of the metropolitan church and clergy. To our way of thinking the rampant world in those great centers of population must have many a snicker at the imbecility of the clergymen, who imagine that they can handicap satan by loaning him a cloak of moral respectability. The very idea of this Actors' Church Alliance is so grotesque that we would feel like turning the whole into infinite laughter, were we not convinced that the ungodly, in the flesh and in the spirit, must be already laughing immoderately over the spectacle. Assuredly it is a sorry day when the dignitaries of the church set to tickling the devil's ribs.

The milk of human kindness will sour in a cold atmosphere. Do not keep it in a cellar, or in an ice house, or in a dark place, but out in the warm, bright sunlight if you wish it to be always pure and sweet.